

# LEADLINE

Intel for savvy South Carolina Port clients.

JUNE 2013

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## Bulk Transload Takes Off In Charleston

THE LEAD

Bulk transload operations, recently having set up shop near the Port of Charleston, are experiencing explosive growth in a variety of export commodities. Transloaders are taking advantage of the increased export lift opportunities out of Charleston due to deeper water. With a 5-foot draft advantage over competing ports, carriers are able to load as many as 500 additional loaded export FEU via Charleston. Key commodities include agricultural products such as grains, soybeans, feather meal, and DDGs; and petrochemical products such as PET and PTA. Major transload operations now in the Charleston area include:

- **Frontier Logistics:** Operating an on-terminal, dual rail-served bulk transload facility at North Charleston Terminal and a near-terminal rail-served warehouse. **Contact:** Greg Smith / [GSmith@FTLG.net](mailto:GSmith@FTLG.net)
- **Premier Logistics:** Operating a rail-served transload facility near North Charleston Terminal. **Contact:** Jim Legette / [Sales@Premier3PL.com](mailto:Sales@Premier3PL.com)
- **CSX Transflo:** A CSX-served bulk transload operation on Tuxbury Drive in North Charleston. **Contact:** Melissa Junstrom / [MJunstrom@Transflo.net](mailto:MJunstrom@Transflo.net)
- **Lansing Trade Group:** Operating a dual rail-served facility just outside the gates of North Charleston Terminal on Remount Road. **Contact:** Steven Speck / [SSpeck@LansingTradeGroup.com](mailto:SSpeck@LansingTradeGroup.com)
- **Scoular:** Operating a bulk soybean transload at the Wando Welch Terminal. **Contact:** Doug Grennan / [DGrennan@Scoular.com](mailto:DGrennan@Scoular.com)
- **JBS Swift:** Operating a transload warehouse at Veterans Terminal. **Contact:** Troy Wondrasch / [Troy@SuperiorFeed.com](mailto:Troy@SuperiorFeed.com)
- **Blackhawk Logistics:** A rail-served transload operation near North Charleston Terminal. **Contact:** Jason Craig / [Jason@BlackhawkLogistics.com](mailto:Jason@BlackhawkLogistics.com)



Lansing's new transload facility (outlined) and proximity to North Charleston Terminal (\*).

## MORE LEADS



The AWE-7 features a 31-day inbound transit time from Yantian and 27-days from Busan.

## AWS/AWE-7 Asia Service Begins

Cargo owners have yet another new Asia service option in Charleston, this latest one with alliance partners COSCO, K-Line, Yang Ming, and Hanjin. The two vessel providers Hanjin and COSCO refer to the service as the AWS and the AWE-7, respectively. The COSCO *Sao Paulo* first-called Charleston May 23 at North Charleston Terminal. The service connects Charleston to ports in Korea, China, and Taiwan via the Panama Canal using 10 vessels averaging 4,200 TEU capacity. Foreign ports include Xiamen, Hong Kong, Yantian, Busan and Kaohsiung. The AWS/AWE-7 will routinely call North Charleston Terminal on Thursdays.

## April Box Growth vs. 2012 Tops 9%

Continuing its growth trajectory, container volume in the Port of Charleston was up 9% in April compared to the same month last year, with 134,718 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs) handled at the port's two container terminals. April 2013 represented a more than 17% increase from the same month two years ago. In the fiscal year to date (July through April), container volume was 10% ahead of the same period last year and represents the highest fiscal year-to-date volume in five years. The Port of Charleston moved 1,295,717 TEUs during the past 10 months, compared to 1,178,843 TEUs in fiscal year 2012.

## Breakbulk Growth Still Strong at 42%

Non-containerized cargo tonnage spiked in April, in part from increased breakbulk activity at Union Pier Terminal as well as bulk project cargo related to a large-scale, local paving project. Key commodities continue to be automobiles, power generating equipment and other project cargo, metals, and specialty Ro/Ro equipment. The SCPA's non-containerized facilities in Charleston and Georgetown handled 155,842 tons of cargo in April, a 42% increase from the same month last year. Pier tons at the two ports totaled 1,361,036 tons of bulk and breakbulk cargo from July to April, a 17% gain from the same period in fiscal year 2012.



Bahri General Cargo now calling Charleston's Columbus Street Terminal.

## Bahri Makes First Charleston Call

The *Bahri Abha* made its inaugural call in Charleston on May 8, 2013, representing not only the first call for the new vessel, but also for the newly re-branded shipping line. National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia recently re-branded itself under the name Bahri General Cargo. The *Bahri Abha* is the first of six new vessels the firm is deploying in the USEC>Middle East>India Subcontinent trade. The new vessels are all designed to handle Ro/Ro and project cargo and each includes shipboard heavy-lift cranes. Foreign ports include Jeddah (distinct import & export calls), Jebel Ali, Dammam, MESAIEED, Mumbai, Mundra, and Livorno. The service is calling Charleston's Columbus Street Terminal.

## Revamped Maersk Services Begin

In May Maersk initiated upgrades in two Charleston-related services, the TP7 and the MECL1. The TP7 Asia service was officially switched from a Panama Canal service to a Suez service using post-Panamax ships varying in size from 5,000-8,000 TEU. The first vessel in the new rotation, the *Kristina*, called on May 22. Foreign ports included in that service are Shanghai, Ningbo, Yantian, Hong Kong, Tanjung Pelepas, Tangier, Valencia, Jeddah, and Kaohsiung. Vessels were also upgraded to an average 6,400 TEU per ship on the MECL1 service, connecting Charleston to ports in the Med, Middle East and India. The first vessel with this U.S.-flag upgrade in capacity calls Charleston June 2.

## Charleston Harbor Deepening Update

Progress continues in the effort to deepen Charleston Harbor to afford 24/7 access for ships drafting 48-feet. Recent developments:

- In late April, S.C. Ports Authority President and CEO Jim Newsome testified before a U.S. Congressional panel regarding the need to modernize our nation's infrastructure, including harbor deepening projects such as Charleston's. Also serving on the panel were Fred Smith, Chairman and CEO of FedEx Corp.; Charles "Wick" Moorman, Chairman and CEO of Norfolk Southern Corp.; Derek Leathers, President and CEO of Werner Enterprises; and Edward Wytkind, President, Transportation & Trades of the AFL-CIO.
- The U.S. Senate passed the Water Resources Development Act, which authorizes critical port infrastructure projects like harbor deepening. The bill includes a pathway to keep projects, like Charleston's, going in the absence of future WRDA bills, and it will be taken up in the U.S. House of Representatives next.

To receive regular updates on deepening the Port of Charleston please e-mail: [SCSPAinfo@scspa.com](mailto:SCSPAinfo@scspa.com)

## Inland Port Development On-Track

Progress on the South Carolina Inland Port is moving quickly with paving about to begin. **The latest developments:**

- A new emissions calculator has been developed to assist firms in quantifying the air quality benefits of using rail to and from the S.C. Inland Port. For more information on the calculator contact your port sales representative.
- The inland port is being designed to accommodate electric rubber-tire gantry cranes, as opposed to the standard diesel units. Three diesel RTGs are being moved from port facilities in Charleston to the inland port. It may be possible in the near future to retrofit those units to operate using electricity. This would accomplish further emissions reduction at the new facility
- G&P Trucking of Gaston, SC has purchased a 10-acre site on Highway 101 in Greer, SC to help serve cargo connected to the inland port.



The latest rendering of the South Carolina Inland Port in Greer, S.C.

- Finished capacity estimated at 100,000FEU/year.
- On schedule for September opening.
- Cargo owners, be sure to ask your ocean carriers for Greer, S.C. rates.

## Spirit Pharma Chooses South Carolina

Pharmaceuticals are a large and growing business in South Carolina's ports. Leading generic pharmaceutical manufacturer Spirit Pharmaceuticals is locating a new manufacturing, packaging and distribution operation on a 47-acre site in Summerton, SC. The plant is just off I-95 in Clarendon County about 75 miles from the Port of Charleston. Spirit will import finished pharmaceuticals and active ingredients to supply major retailers such as Walgreens, CVS and Dollar Tree. The new facility represents a capital investment of more than \$12 million and the creation of nearly 300 new jobs. It is expected to begin operations in the fourth quarter of 2013. Helping to serve this industry's growth, two pharmaceutical specialists in CBP's Centers of Excellence & Expertise are located in Charleston.

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(ABOVE) MOL'S INNOVATIVE CAR CARRIER EMERALD ACE COMBINES A 160KW SOLAR GENERATION SYSTEM (LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES THAT CAN STORE SOME 2.2MWH OF ELECTRICITY) AND A CONVENTIONAL DIESEL PROPULSION SYSTEM. (BELOW) A SHIPMENT OF 28 BREWING TANKS FOR SIERRA NEVADA BREWING IN NORTH CAROLINA ARRIVES IN CHARLESTON. MADE IN GERMANY, SOME OF THE TANKS CAN HOLD 3,200 KEGS OF BEER.

